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REVIEW OF BOOKS.

The History of British India. By James Mill, Esq. in three volumes, 4to. pp. 2145. London. 1817.

THE singular fact, that "little more than two centuries have elapsed since a few British merchants humbly solicited from the princes of India, permission to traffic in their territories," and that "the British dominion now embraces nearly the whole of that vast region which extends from Cape Comorin to the mountains of Tibet, and from the mouths of the Brahmapootra to the sources of the Indus," is of itself sufficient to excite an anxiety to know somewhat in detail of the means by which so extensive a power has been acquired in so short a period, and to make us fully agree with the author, that the "subject forms an entire and highly interesting portion of the British History; and it is hardly possible that the matter should have been brought together, for the first time, without being instructive, however unskillfully the task may have been performed."

The justice and policy of the measures by which so strong a hold has been obtained of this vast empire, have been amply discussed in the senate and by all the writers on India affairs. Our government, on the one hand, has been represented as one continued system of rapacious cruelty and oppression, while others have vindicated it as conducted with all the moderation which the circumstances would admit. Successive governors-general have been returned from India to receive the honours of their sovereign, and the approbation of a vast portion of their countrymen, while others have seen nothing in their conduct but subject matter for impeachment.

Without entering at all on the discussion of this question, for which, however, Mr. Mill's work furnishes more ample materials than have ever yet been collected together, we shall proceed to give a rapid sketch of the rise and progress of our possessions in India.

The first European establishments
VOL II.

in India were those of the Portuguese, when Vasco de Gama discovered the passage round the Cape of Good Hope, and reached the coast of Hindoostan. For more than a century the Portuguese possessed this advantage without a rival, during which time "they had explored the Indian Ocean, as far as Japan; had discovered its islands, rich with some of the most favourite productions of nature; had achieved the most brilliant conquests; and, by their commerce, poured into Europe, in unexampled profusion, those commodities of the east on which the nations at that time set an extraordinary value;" this opulent traffic soon inflamed the cupidity of all the maritime nations of Europe, among the first of which was England, whose commerce was then assuming a very active spirit.

The first idea of the English was to endeavour to reach India by a less circuitous route than that by the Cape of Good Hope, and a series of attempts to discover a north-west and north-east passage were made, during the reigns of Henry VIII and his immediate successors; these attempts were successively made by Robert Thorne, Sir Hugh Willoughby, Frobisher, and Davies, between the years 1527 and 1586. These efforts proving abortive, the English resolved no longer to be deterred by the pretensions of the Portuguese, who claimed the exclusive right to the passage they had discovered, and two voyages to China were undertaken in 1582 and 1596, both of which were unsuccessful; the latter consisted of three ships which were driven upon the coast of Spanish America, where only four men were preserved alive from the effects of storms, famine, and disease.

The next attempt, however, succeeded; it was that of the gallant Sir Francis Drake, who, with an expedition of five vessels, sailed from Plymouth the 13th of December, 1577, and after passing the Straits of Magellan, and ravaging the western coast of Spanish America, "formed the bold design of crossing the Pacific Ocean to India, and regaining England by the

Cape of Good Hope." With one ship only, he entered on this immense navigation, and approaching the Asiatic coast, fixed his intention on the Moluccas; from intelligence received on his passage, he, however, determined to land at Ternate, with the king of which he formed a friendly intercourse, and laid in a valuable cargo of spices. He then visited several other islands, particularly that of Java, and then departed with a tolerable knowledge both of the character of the people, and the productions of the country. After leaving Java, the first land which they touched was that of the Cape of Good Hope; from thence they sailed for England, and arrived at Plymouth on the 27th September, 1580, after a voyage of two years, ten months, and a few days, during which they had given proofs of their naval prowess, had circumnavigated the globe, and laid the foundation of that commercial intercourse which has since risen to so important a magnitude.

Among the men of rank who at this time embarked their persons and properties in laborious and dangerous expeditions, none was attended with more important circumstances than that of Thomas Cavendish, who, with three ships, sailed from Plymouth on the 21st July, 1586.

"This adventurous discoverer extensively explored the intricate navigation of the Indian archipelago, and observed the circumstances of the new and extraordinary scene with a quick and intelligent eye. He visited the Ladrones; pursued a roving course among the Philippines, which brought most of them within his view; he passed through the Moluccas; sailed along that important chain of islands which, extending from the Strait of Malacca, bounds the Indian archipelago to the extremity of Timor; and passing the Strait of Bally, between the two Javas, cast anchor on the south-west side of the great island of that name. He traded here with the natives for provisions, and formed with them a sort of treaty, stipulating a favourable reception whenever his visit should be renewed." —I. p. 11.

Cavendish also made astronomical observations, and studied the weather,

the winds, and the tides; on the day of his arrival in England, he wrote to Lord Hunsdon, as follows:—"I have navigated to the islands of Philippines, hard upon the coast of China, of which country I have brought such intelligence as hath not been heard of in these parts; a country, the stateliness and riches of which I fear to make report of, lest I should not be credited."

Voyages to India had now become frequent, by individual adventurers, and the Levant Company had fitted out an expedition which explored part of the interior, particularly Agra, Lahore, and Bengal; when, in 1589, a memorial was presented to government in the name of "divers merchants," for the royal permission to send three ships, and as many pinnaces, to India. What reception this application received is not known; but while the English were fluctuating between desire and execution in this important object, the Dutch, in 1595, boldly sent four ships to trade with India by the Cape of Good Hope. This roused the jealousy and ambition of England, so that

"In 1599, an association was formed, and a fund subscribed, which amounted to 30,133l. 6s. 8d., and consisted of one hundred and one shares, the subscriptions of individuals varying from 100l. to 3000l. It was agreed to petition the queen for a warrant to fit out three ships, and export bullion; and also for a charter of privileges. A committee of fifteen, the origin and foundation of a court of directors, were chosen to manage. The approbation of the government was readily signified; but, as a treaty was then pending with Spain, policy counselled delay."—I. p. 13.

An embassy was sent over land by Constantinople, to the Great Mogul, but owing to the suspicions excited by the Portuguese and Venetian agents, it was unsuccessful. Towards the end of the year 1600, the consent of government was obtained to prepare an expedition to India, when five ships were fitted out; the cost of provisioning these ships for twenty months, was estimated at 6600l. 4s. 10d. and the value of the cargoes sent out, exclusive of bullion, at 4,545l.: the expedition was accompanied by thirty-six factors, or supercargoes.

The first charter, the origin of a power so anomalous and extensive as that which the East India Company has since become, was granted on the 31st of December, 1600, and contained nothing remarkable from the other charters of incorporation which in that age were so commonly bestowed on trading associations: the period for

which it was granted was fifteen years. The sum now raised amounted to 68,373l.: of this, 39,771l. was expended in the purchase and equipment of ships; 28,742l. was expended in bullion, and 6,860l. in goods; consisting partly of British commodities, cloth, lead, tin, cutlery, glass, &c." The expedition under the command of Captain Lancaster, (who had accompanied the unfortunate expedition of Captain Raymond, in 1591,) sailed from Torbay on the 2d of May, 1601, carrying letters of recommendation from the queen to the sovereigns of the different ports to which it might resort.

Nothing particular occurred in this voyage; but the profits were such as to induce an active prosecution of the commerce thus established; from the year 1603 to 1613, eight other voyages were made, all of which, one excepted, were prosperous, the clear profits being in general more than 200 per cent. on the capital. These voyages were principally directed to the islands in the Indian Ocean, as Sumatra, Java, and Amboyna, the returns being raw silk, fine calicoes, indigo, cloves, and mace. In 1609, the company obtained a renewal of their charter, constituting them a body corporate for ever, still, however, providing that, "on experience of prejudice to the nation, their exclusive privileges should, after three years' notice, cease and expire." In 1612, they became a joint-stock company, establishing a general fund fixed in amount, and divided into regular shares, to be employed by the governor and directors for the benefit of those by whom it was advanced. On these terms, 429,000l. was raised, which the directors thought proper to divide, for the purpose of four separate adventures, or voyages, to be undertaken in as many successive years.

In 1614, Sir Thomas Roe was despatched as ambassador to the Mogul court, and obtained a sort of treaty, in which liberty was promised the English of trading and establishing factories in any part of the Mogul dominions; Surat, Bengal, and Lindy, being particularly named. Independent of the negotiations, Sir Thomas was very liberal of his advice to the directors, particularly cautioning them to avoid territorial acquisition and military expense: he further gives some insight into the purity of the Mogul court, for, says he, "half my charge shall corrupt all this court to be your slaves. The best way to do your business in it is to find some Mogul that you may entertain for one thousand rupees a-year, as your solicitor at

court." Surat and Bantam now became the seats of the company's principal establishments.

A second joint-stock was formed in 1617-18, amounting to 1,600,000l.; the company now consisted of nine hundred and fifty-four proprietors, and had thirty-six ships of from one hundred to one thousand tons burthen each, carrying on an active commerce in spite of the rivalship of the Portuguese and the Dutch; with the latter of which powers hostilities had commenced, by their attempting to expel us from the islands Polaroon and Rozengin. Several memorials were presented by the Dutch and English East India Companies, to King James; commissioners were appointed on the part of each, and an adjustment of all differences followed, by an agreement that the two companies should act in concert to reduce the duties and exactions of the native governments at the different ports. The treaty, however, was soon evaded by the Dutch, whose superior fleets and capital had reduced the English trade to very narrow limits. The massacre of Captain Towerson, with nine Englishmen, nine Japanese, and one Portuguese, at Amboyna, by the Dutch, followed; they were subjected to the most cruel torture, which Mr. Mills palliates, by stating it to have been a part of the Dutch code in Holland.

The indignation with which this act of atrocity was received by the people of England, induced application to be made to the king to obtain signal reparation from the Dutch Government, and an order was immediately issued for intercepting and detaining the Dutch East India Fleets till satisfaction was obtained; the answer of the Dutch government was such as showed their conscious superiority, nor was it until the time of Oliver Cromwell, that they were compelled, in reparation, to pay the sum of £3615 to the heirs or executors of those who had suffered.

A third joint stock was formed in 1631-32, the amount of which was £420,700, and some progress was now made in extending the connexions of the company with the eastern coast of Hindustan; the factory at Masulipatam was replaced, and Bantam again raised to the rank of a presidency, and the eastern coast was placed under its jurisdiction, when a new adventure was founded by Sir William Courten, which, for some time, carried on a successful traffic with India, to the great annoyance of the company, who were indefatigable in pressing the king by

petitions and remonstrances against it; at length, it was agreed that Courten's license should be withdrawn, on condition that the company should raise a new joint stock to carry on the trade on a sufficient scale; but so low was the credit of the East India adventure reduced under the bad success of joint-stock mismanagement, that the project of a new subscription almost totally failed, no more than £22,500 having been raised; the union with Courten's association, however, took place in 1650.

A heavy calamity now fell on the proprietors of the third joint-stock, for, the king wanting money to commence war, fixed on the East India Company, and purchased the whole of their pepper on credit, which he immediately sold for ready money at a much lower price *, nor were the monies owing by the company for duties, amounting to £13,000, allowed as a set-off; this was in 1641-2.

About this time, the first important settlement was made in India, at Madras; Armegum, which had been fortified as a security both to the property of the company and the persons of their agents, being, on experience, found not a convenient station for providing the piece goods, for which chiefly the trade to the coast of Coromandel was pursued;—“In 1740-41 [1640-41], the permission of the local chief to erect a fort at Madraspatam, was, therefore, eagerly embraced; the works were begun, and the place named Fort St. George; but the measure was not approved by the directors.” We now approach a more auspicious period:—

“In 1651-52, the English obtained, in Bengal, the first of these peculiar privileges which were the fore-runners of their subsequent power. It happened that some surgeons were among the persons, belonging to the factories, whom there was occasion to send to the Imperial Court. One of them, a gentleman of the name of Boughton, is particularly named. Obtaining great influence by the cures they effected, they employed their interest in promoting the views of the company. Favourable circumstances were so well improved, that, on the payment of three thousand rupees, a government license for an unlimited trade without payment of customs, in the richest province of India, was happily obtained. On the Coromandel coast, the wars, which then raged among the nations, rendered commerce difficult and uncertain; and the directors were urged, by the agents at Madras, to add to the fortifications. This they refused on the ground of expense. As it

was inconvenient, however, to keep the business of this coast dependent on the distant settlement of Bantam, Fort St. George was erected into a presidency in 1653-54.”—I. p. 48.

The war which followed with the Dutch, seemed, in the outset, to threaten the annihilation of the English company, but the energy with which it was conducted by Cromwell, soon reduced the Dutch to the necessity of desiring peace, on such terms as he chose to dictate. The claims of the English company, which had so long lain dormant, were now brought forward at the vast sum of 2,695,999l. 15s. against which, the Dutch brought a counter-claim of 2,919,861l. 3s. 6d.; the sum awarded to the English, by the commissioners, was, however, only 85,000l.; but, notwithstanding this decision in their favour, the English company continued to languish for the want of funds, while the Dutch were pursuing their advantages against the Portuguese, had acquired possession of Ceylon, blockaded the port of Goa, and had nearly obtained complete command of the navigation on that side of India.

The coalition of the company with the Merchant Adventurers in 1657-58 *, and the new subscription of 786,000l. raised in consequence of it, did not render their affairs more prosperous; the new charter, granted by Charles II, with more extensive privileges, and the cession of Bombay to the King of England as part of the dowry of the Infanta Catherine, were events of considerable importance: the government of Bombay was soon afterwards offered to the company and accepted. It was “to be held of the king in free and common socage, as of the manor of East Greenwich, on the payment of the annual rent of 10l. in gold, on the 30th September in each year.” The grant bears date in 1668.

The brave resistance made by the company's factory at Surat, in 1664, against Sevagee, the founder of the Mahratta Power, so pleased the Mogul government, as to obtain new privileges. The scale, on which the company's appointments were at this time formed, was very small; for, in 1662, Sir George Oxenden, the “President and chief Director of all their affairs at Surat, and all other their factories in the north parts of India, from Zeilon to the Red Sea,” had a salary only of 300l.

with a gratuity of 200l. as a compensation for private trade, which had hitherto been carried on to a very injurious extent; the time, however, was now approaching, when the weakness, which had so long characterized the operations of the English in India, was gradually to disappear. The island of St. Helena was confirmed to the company by a royal charter, and Bengal erected into a distinct agency, but Bantam was captured by the Dutch, and an insurrection took place at Bombay, in 1687, when Captain Keigwin, commander of the garrison, renounced the authority of the company, and declared the island belonged to the king; the insurrection was reduced, on the arrival of the fleet, and Bombay erected into a regency, with unlimited power over the rest of the company's settlements, and Madras formed into a corporation. A war with the native powers followed, which exposed the company's settlements to ruin in every part of India; the factory at Surat was seized, and the greater part of the island of Bombay taken, while the French were improving their footing in India, and had formed an establishment at Pondicherry.

“It was now laid down as a determinate object of policy, that independence was to be established in India, and dominion acquired. In the instructions forwarded, in 1689, the Directors expounded themselves in the following words: ‘The increase of our revenue is the subject of our care, as much as our trade: ‘tis that must maintain our force, when twenty accidents may interrupt our trade: ‘tis that must make us a nation in India:—without that we are but as a great number of interlopers, united by His Majesty's royal charter, fit only to trade where nobody of power thinks it their interest to prevent us:—and upon this account it is, that the wise Dutch, in all their general advices which we have seen, write ten paragraphs concerning their government, their civil and military policy, warfare, and the increase of their revenue, for one paragraph they write concerning trade.’”—I. p. 74.

In 1698, a new East India Company was formed with a capital of two millions, which, however, was too feebly conducted to stand; it was united with the old company, four years afterwards, and the two parties took the common name of *The United Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies*. The business at home now became regular and uniform, and that in India was under the government of three Presidencies, one at Bombay, another at Madras, and a third at Calcutta, all independent of each other; absolute, within their own limits, and

* The quantity was 607,522 bags, bought at 2s. 1d. per lb. total, £63,283 11s. 1½d.; sold at 1s. 8d. per lb. total, £50,626 17s. 1d.

* It was in 1657-58 that the first order for the importation of tea was given by the East India Company: it was to their agents to send over “one hundred pound weight of the best tey.”

responsible only to the Company in England. In 1726, a Mayor's Court was established in each presidency, the President and Council erected into a Court of Appeal; a Court of Conscience, and a Court of Requests were also instituted, independent of the usual Zemindary Courts, for the administration of the Indian laws to the Indian people.

From this period the commerce of the company increased rapidly, and new privileges were again obtained, from the Mogul Emperor, principally by the generosity of an Englishman, who had accompanied an Embassy to the Mogul, and cured him of a disease which his own physicians had treated unskillfully: Hamilton was commanded to name his own reward, and he solicited privileges for the Company. In 1732, which was the first year that the company began to make up annual accounts, their sales amounted to £1,940,996, in 1744, to £1,997,506: the quantity of goods paid for, amounted to £105,230, in 1732, and in 1744 to £231,318. The company's dividends, which had been for some time eight per cent. were, in 1732, reduced to seven, at which rate they continued until 1744, in which year, they returned to eight per cent.

Madras, which, during the space of a century, had been the principal settlement of the English on the Coromandel Coast, was attacked by a French fleet, in 1746. The territory at this time, belonging to the Company, extended only five miles along the shore, and was about one mile in breadth; the number of English in this colony did not exceed three hundred men, of whom two hundred were the soldiers of the garrison. The force brought against them by the French, under Labourdonnais, consisted of one thousand or eleven hundred Europeans, with eight hundred Sepoys and Caffres, independent of seventeen hundred or eighteen hundred men, which remained in the ships. For five days the town sustained a bombardment, when the inhabitants, expecting an assault, capitulated. Labourdonnais used his success with the greatest moderation. Whilst the French troops were here, after Labourdonnais had sailed, the Nabob, with a numerous army, came upon them; the French, therefore, encountered the Indians, astonished them beyond measure, by the rapidity with which they discharged their artillery, gained over them, with a numerical force which bore no proportion to their own, a decisive victory, and first

broke the spell which held the Europeans in subjection to the native powers."

Notwithstanding express orders had been sent to restore Madras to the English, yet Dupleix, the governor of Pondicherry, who had assumed the command of the army, refused to comply and even endeavoured to follow up his success by the destruction of another English settlement, that of St. David, which the opportune arrival of an English fleet prevented: Madras was restored, by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748.

Hitherto, the English had been mere traders, preserving a footing in India under the protection or oppression of the native powers; we now approach the period in which they assumed a higher character, and entered into the intrigues and politics of the native princes: their first step was to defend the Prince of Tanjore, in which they were unsuccessful; a second was made, in which Devi-Cotah was ceded to the company, with an annual value of nine thousand pagodas. While the English were engaged in this trifling service, the French were effecting a revolution in the Carnatic.

(To be continued.)

The Banquet; in Three Cantos. 8vo.
pp. 144. London. 1819.

THREE cantos, on the provoking subject of good eating and drinking, would, a year or two ago, have been a punishment, not less severe than that of Tantalus and his companions, who were doomed to behold a rich feast, of which they were not allowed to partake. Happily, the reviving commerce of the country, and the comparatively cheap state of the markets, have diffused an increased comfort throughout the country, of which we, in our garret, have felt the influence; and, after enjoying a share in the festivities of the season, we are able, with unruffled minds, to peruse this poem. The various modes of culinary preparation of the ancient golden age, and Greek and Roman heroes, here detailed, with the more scientific, and hardly less sumptuous, entertainments of modern luxury, present a rich feast to the epicure, who, having lost his keenness of digestion, like a condemned spirit in regions of penance, yet retains all his predilections towards the darling scenes of his enjoyments: he may here reiterate the memory of pleasures that are past, and await the more active season, more material, and substantial gratification; and,

at the same time, obtain some food for the mind, of which, with such an accompaniment, he may be induced to partake.

We pass by the barbarous devastation of food by the uncivilized aborigines of the earth, and the more refined luxury of the polished Greeks, and come down to the age when Rome had triumphed over her African and Asiatic foes, and when a victorious general consumed the wealth of a province in his kitchen:—

" Still on one hero all our eyes are cast,
Almost the greatest, and almost the last.
From the bright list what other could you
call us,

But that great epicure, Lucius Lucullus?
His valour I respect: but less admire
His fire of genius, than his kitchen fire.
His overthrow of Pontic Mithridates,
In every school-boy's mouth of late is;
Such then the warrior, ask who he beat,
But whom he treated, and of what they eat.
Victor of Olthacus and of Tigranes,
His credit not a little on the wane is;
But those who read their Plutarch may remember,—

The time, I think the calends of December,
With what extreme magnificence and pomp,
he

Regal'd Cratippus, Cicero, and Pompey.
His suppers gain'd him greater credit far,
Than harnessing four monarchs to his car.

Alone and musing, as he sat one day,—
A thing which rarely happen'd, by the way,
The groom in waiting, thinking to surprise,
Inquired—if forty dishes would suffice?

'No; certainly,' he cries, 'add forty more;
When have you furnish'd fewer than four-score!

What if no other guest I should invite,
Lucullus with Lucullus sups to-night!?"

In the times of the Emperors, the luxuries of the table were carried to as great a pitch of extravagance as in the latter years of the overgrown republic. On one occasion, Domitian having had a present made him of an enormous turbot, had the audacity to convene the Senate, to consult in what manner it should be dressed:—

" With sharpest wit, some hastily decide
At once, the imperial monster to divide;
Cut, at one stroke, the fish and gordian knot:
But the majority determine—not,
And pass a bill to widen and enlarge
The pan Cæsarean, at the public charge,
Then, as a rider, add a sweeping clause,
Which meets with loud unanimous applause,
To lengthen, strengthen, fortify, extend,
And the imperial stomach to amend.
Referred to the profoundest of their thinkers,
To form a grand committee of state tinkers.

The most ridiculous actor, in the above burlesque on all government and legislative deliberation, was a *blind* senator, who affected to be in raptures at the sight of the fish, and made an oration in its praise; but, unluckily, directed his eye-balls, all the time, and pointed with his finger, where the fish was not

"Nemo magis phourbum stupuit; nam plura dixit
In laevum conversus: atilli dextra jacebat
Bellua."—*Ju enalis Satiræ*, iv. v. 120.

The second canto is occupied with the refinement of banqueting, and the details of a feast, of modern times. The author views, with complacency, the modes of the present day, and expresses his dislike of the cumbrous hospitality of the Homeric heroes, and of the feudal barons, in the following lines:—

"Think not, to my contemporaries, I
Would counsel obsolete depravity:
Let others broil their mutton in the fleece,
Or barbecue a hog entire, in Greece;
I yield the palm, nor can instruct you how
To broil a bullock or to roast a cow.
But if the oxen-swallowing mode prevail,
Let us not think of choking on the tail,
But still this grant gluttony pursue,
And take a sucking elephant and stew;
Harpoon a whale, and souse it well in port,
Like carp or fishes of a lesser sort.
At top a buffalo, side dish sea-calf,
Centre a seal, at bottom a giraffe:
What self-adjusting stomach, or what table,
Long to sustain such viands would be able?
Soon should we find our appetites to flag,
And ship these dishes off for Brobdignag."

We must omit the various courses and costly dishes, prepared with nicest art, of luxurious ingredients, from every corner of the globe, with the ha-vock made by the guests, and their observations at dinner, which the author presents his readers with all the importance of Homer or Virgil singing the battles of the warlike Greeks or Trojans, and turn to canto third, where, the campaign being finished, there is leisure to descant on the tactics to be pursued. With all his dislike to the substantial and ponderous loads of provision which old hospitality placed on the table, the author is so old fashioned as to recommend rising at an early hour, and taking laborious exercise in the field, and to make the chief repast of the day, at the hour in use in the antiquated era of Queen Elizabeth, in short, at mid-day, instead of mid-night. In a note on this canto, the poet expresses his dread, lest, from the prevailing custom of late years, to make the chief repast at later and later hour, it will, at last, become the fashion to dine *to-morrow*, instead of the more salutary and nutritious practice of dining *to-day*.

There are many notes attached to the poem, most of which are very entertaining. We observe, amongst others, various strange ideas which empirics, of great name in the medical world in their day, have published and defended:—

"Paracelsus, Lecetus, and Cardan assert, that some holy anchorites lived

twenty years without food! and Ficinius, Crolius, and Rundeletius tell us of a nation, called Astemares, near the Ganges, who, having no mouths, existed only by their smell, carrying a nosegay in their breast; or, on long journeys, a few apples or quinces in their pockets; and, as Olympiodorus assures us, that a person in his time existed many years without food or sleep, only standing in the sunshine a few minutes, now and then, to refresh himself: so he thinks if some other way of nourishing nature could be discovered besides eating, which, from the above examples, seems quite probable, all causes of diseases would be cut off, and we might consequently live as long as we pleased!"

The whole poem is an imitation of the *Gastronomia* of Berchoux. From the specimens we have placed before our readers of the poem and the notes, they will perceive it to be amusing, particularly to the lovers of a good table. It is very elegantly printed, on good paper, hot-pressed, with a beautiful frontispiece, and handsomely engraved title page. There are, however, several typographical errors; for instance, in the notes we find mention of the "Yeomen of the Month," but, on referring to the Red Book, we find it should have been "Yeomen of the Mouth," whose salaries are £238 per annum.

Cambriana, No. E.

WELSH LITERARY INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—My long silence must have induced you to consider, that I had descended to the "tomb of all the Capulets," or (shall I rather say,) of all the Ordovices. However, I have too good an opinion of your candour not to suppose, that you will give full credit to my affirmation when I assure you, on the word of a living man, that this is not the fact; and, to place the matter beyond a doubt, you have here my hand and seal to the truth of it. Without farther preface, then, where perhaps none was necessary, it is my intention, with your leave, to commence a series of occasional letters on the literature and history of Wales, under the title of CAMBRIANA, and of which I wish this to be considered the first. A pardonable, if not a laudable, zeal in the cause of my native country has prompted me to this undertaking, as, indeed, it has likewise been the source of several letters, which I have already written both in the *Literary Journal** and

* I take this opportunity of subjoining a reference to my former communications to your Journal in relation to Wales, as I may have occasion hereafter to allude to them:—No. 16, p. 241; No. 18, p. 280; No. 20, p. 312; No. 23, p. 359; No. 25, p. 398; No. 32, p. 507; and No. 36, p. 559.

elsewhere. And I am willing to flatter myself, that I may be, in some degree, instrumental in attracting the public attention to a subject so pregnant, as this undoubtedly is, with matter of novel and interesting research. Yet, in the execution of this design, it is, by no means, my intention to pursue any formal plan. I shall take subjects as they occur without any regard to system or method, endeavouring only to select such as may have, from their nature, some chance of engaging the curiosity of your readers. My present letter shall be devoted to an account of the Literary Institution recently established in Wales, accompanied by such observations as may naturally belong to the occasion.

It had, for a long succession of years, been the misfortune, and, let me add, the reproach of Wales, that she possessed no institution either for the encouragement of living genius, or for the illustration of her past renown. A few individuals indeed, of no very elevated rank, had associated in London, at different times, for this patriotic purpose; but, whether from a want of means, or from whatever other reason it proceeded I know not, they were productive of no extraordinary benefit to the cause they professed to espouse. The collection of a few Welsh MSS. and the publication of two or three works connected with Wales appear to have been the only fruits of their exertions during a period of between sixty and seventy years*. It should not be forgotten, however, that the disgraceful indifference of the Welsh gentry, during all this time, must have contributed not a little to this unsatisfactory result. Sunk in a listless apathy with respect to every national object, they beheld, without concern, their history unexplored, the remains of their ancient literature unexamined, their poets unpatronized, and their venerable language itself uncultivated, neglected, despised. Nay, there were even some, amongst them, so degenerate, (I and fear there are still) as unblushingly to express a wish for the extirpation of their vernacular tongue; while to few, if to any, were even its first rudiments known. Such continued to be the unfortunate condition of Wales with respect to its leading inhabitants, when the "Cambrian Society" was recently instituted. But even of this act of patriotism, thus dilatorily achieved, the full merit, I believe, does not belong to the Welsh gentry. For I have been informed, that the project originally emanated from that learned and exemplary

* There have been, at different times, three Welsh Societies established in the metropolis, viz. the *Cymrodorion*, *Gwyneddigion*, and *Cymreigydion*. The first of these was formed, I believe, in the year 1755, and the two latter, which are the only ones now in existence, at the several periods of fifty and twenty years ago. The MSS. I have alluded to, were collected by the first, and the books published by the second, of the above-mentioned societies. I have not heard of any public benefit having resulted from the other.

divine, the Bishop of St. David's. If so, the chief praise is unquestionably his due. Nor will it, I trust, be among the least consolations of his future life, that he has performed this essential service for his adopted country. And while, by his laudable example, he stimulates her inactive sons to repair their former error, we may indulge a hope, that the institution, he is so eminently qualified to adorn, will prove a lasting monument to his fame.

It is now time that I should give some account of the institution in question, which has been established professedly for the purpose of "preserving the remains of ancient British literature, and of encouraging the national music," and which has assumed the name of the "Cambrian Society." The first meeting took place at Caermarthen, on the 29th of last October, when the chair was filled by Lord Dynevor. Several resolutions were adopted, in connection with the purpose of the Society, and assurances of support received from gentlemen in all parts of the principality. Since that time, prizes have been advertised for the successful candidates in certain productions, having for their objects, the encouragement of the native muse of Wales, and the illustration of her ancient learning and history. These are, three Welsh poems and two dissertations in English, and to which is to be added a performance on the Welsh harp. The distribution of these prizes is to be made at an *Eisteddfod* or Session, to be holden at Caermarthen, in the course of the ensuing summer.

Such is the outline of all that has as yet publicly transpired, with respect to the character and objects of this institution: and, from the assurances of support which it has received, we have every reason to augur most favourably of its future career. To this I am also enabled to add, from private information, that the distinguished prelate, already named, has individually made considerable exertion to promote the success of his patriotic design. And the more intimately acquainted he becomes with the merits of the cause he so generously advocates, the more zealous, if possible, will be his exertions to serve it. For I do not hesitate to declare it as my opinion, (and I hope I may do it, without incurring the imputation of any national prejudice,) that there is no language more deserving of cultivation than the ancient British, no literature more interesting, in an historical or even a poetical view, than the songs of the bards. In all the essential, or even the ornamental, qualities of a language, the Welsh tongue stands proudly pre-eminent over most others now spoken, and may vie with any of ancient or modern times in purity, energy, or copiousness of expression. And the remains of the bardic effusions of Britain abundantly prove its admirable applicability to metrical composition to a degree of unequalled variety. But it is not a part of my present design to enter into a dissertation on this subject: it

must be reserved, if at all, for some future occasion. My only object in this letter has been, to make your readers acquainted with the "Cambrian Society," and the present state of Welsh literature, or rather with the prospect, now afforded, of its establishment on a solid and respectable basis. And to a paper, so laudably devoted, as yours is, to the diffusion of literary information, such an object cannot but be particularly appropriate.

London, Jun. 24th. 1819. ORDOVEX.

FREE DRAWING-SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Observing some observations on the establishment of Free Drawing-Schools in your highly interesting Journal, I am induced to remark, that few persons, excepting artists, appear to follow their several professions from real love. Money-making, though to a certain degree a necessary evil, too often takes such full possession of the faculties of man, that, in it, all the finer feelings of humanity are absorbed. To no profession is Drawing more essentially requisite than to that of medicine, whether as it regards physicians, anatomists, or surgeons. The highest in rank continually recommend to their pupils the necessity of acquiring the power of portraying objects; but how very few of the numbers who visit our London hospitals, attend to this recommendation? The fact is this, the greater number of the students have no further idea of their liberal profession, than to make a trade of it. To pursue it as a science never enters their thoughts; if they can but pass the college, and so qualify themselves to set up as country apothecaries, or to go abroad as navy surgeons, they care not for more. It appears to me, that a knowledge of Drawing ought to be one of the qualifications required by the college board, which would be of incalculable benefit in forwarding science. These observations can only apply to the vain, the ignorant, and the idle, of which there is a numerous class in all professions. I merely wish to add to the respectability of the medical profession, to which I am myself attached, and to make it still more conducive to the welfare of mankind, which I am convinced a knowledge of the Art of Drawing would do.

I remain, your constant Reader,
A. B.

ROYAL MARRIAGES.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—An ingenious writer in the United States, who entertains no very exalted opinion of the intellectual talents of modern princes, attributes their inferiority in this respect to the frequent intermarriages of the same family. He mentions, very justly, the care with which persons engaged in the breeding of cattle avoid this error, and how a want of attention to it is sure to be followed by a degenerate

stock. The same care is observed by agriculturists, who will not sow the same grain in the land which has produced it, but change it for some other, although, perhaps, of an inferior quality.

How far this doctrine is applicable to the human species, I will not pretend to inquire; although, in confirmation of the theory of the author I have alluded to, I must mention that I have been very credibly informed, that there are two families in Scotland who have, for some centuries, almost invariably married with each other, and that they are proverbially dull and stupid.

This, though a political view of the subject, is not the most important, for, in a religious sense, these marriages are frequently little less than incestuous. Such has been the case in the houses of Spain and Portugal, as the following brief notice will show:

Peter the Third, late King of Portugal, married Maria Frances Isabella, *his own niece*; their son, Joseph, married *his own aunt*, Frances, the sister of Maria.

The present King of Portugal married Charlotte, of Spain, sister of Ferdinand VII; and their two daughters have been married to their uncles, the fore-named Ferdinand VII and his brother, the Infanta.

I leave to your readers to draw their own conclusions, how far such marriages are likely to prove beneficial to the princes who contract them, or to the nations they govern; but I cannot avoid remarking, that the two families I have named are the most imbecile of any in Europe, and by no means the least unfortunate. X.

LOGIC AND DANCING.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—In page 44 of your 43d Number, under the—I beg pardon, there was a want of *head*—you noticed Logic and Dancing. Is your correspondent a logical dancing-master or a dancing logician? I should think the first, with more in his heels than his head, for though he has attempted to range from one to the other, his *jigging in and out* with nature, and genius, and art, has defied his logic, or any one's else, to follow him.

If his own report of himself is to be believed, he must be the most accomplished dancer, or the most extraordinary, for he says dancing imitates an idea—he would not have ventured this assertion but from practical knowledge. He might get a good engagement at Covent Garden, in their rage for extraordinaries, by a public display of his peculiar talents. Let him continue to *cut capers*, but not *chop logic*; for the only thing clear, in his *hodge-podge*, is, that he mistakes the means for the end—a thing, by the bye, not very uncommon among dancing-masters. Genius has nothing to do with dancing—that is inseparable from the mind; while the greatest fool, it is clear, may be a dancing-master, and I have never known one who had not, in the admiration of his heels, forgotten his head. The art of

dancing is that of *acquiring the power of difficult gesticulation with ease, that easy action may be graceful*: but so entirely is this principle lost sight of, that tortuous attitudes, like performing the alphabet, or imitating the diagrams of Euclid, with the body, and spinning like a *tetotum*, all means of difficult attainment, are considered the end of dancing, and alone applauded at the ballet, while the elegance and loveliness of action, arising from the conscious power over greater difficulties, which habit has made easy, is unnoticed or condemned. P. W.

LINCOLN'S INN SQUARE.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Observing that Mr. Justice Park, in his capacity of a vestryman of the parish of St. Giles in the Fields, in contemplating the erection of two Chapels of Ease for that parish, under the new Church-building Act, has, in a circular letter, recommended the east side of the planted area of Lincoln's Inn Square as a site for one of them, I beg, not as a Lincoln's Inn Bencher, but as a parishioner, and as a lover of the beautiful in cities, to enter, briefly and hastily, my protest against such a step.

Sir, the New Buildings, in Lincoln's Inn, are among the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful edifices in London; and they present, with their garden, to all parts of Lincoln's Inn Square, but particularly the west side, one of the most beautiful prospects which our close and title-ornamented town affords. I protest against the erection of any building which shall *break the line* of those buildings, and *cut up* and destroy the whole picturesque effect.

Sir, Lincoln's Inn Square lying at the south-east extremity of the parish of St. Giles in the Fields, is not an eligible situation for a chapel of ease.

Sir, the immediate centre of a populous part of the parish, is the best situation for a place of religious worship, and Lincoln's Inn Square does not answer that description.

Sir, the ornamenting of some part of Holborn, in the neighbourhood of Lincoln's Inn Square, with the edifice in question, would afford three great advantages;—it would give a chapel to a crowded neighbourhood, it would give beauty where there is at present none; and it would not, as in the case of Lincoln's Inn Square, take away beauty from where it is already existing.

I am, Sir, &c. D.

BURLINGTON SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Pray say a word for the little girls at Burlington School, Hanover Square. In the coldest and wettest weather, they go to and from church without cloaks or gloves; their necks covered only with a linen tippet, and their red, or rather blue hands drawn under their linen aprons. Some of the stronger ones sur-

vive this, no doubt, but are not the weak ones, killed; or do they not suffer for life, as well as in their infant days? I am told that the funds of the school are abundant, and that the girls earn much at their needle. Will not the managers take pity on them?

I am, Sir, &c. HARRIET.

AGAINST EARLY RISING*.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

DEAR SIR,—The following are the best remarks on *sleep* I have seen,

Your's truly, W. R.

SLEEP.

"Health is more injured by interrupted and insufficient sleep than even by lazy indulgence. Many silly and injurious opinions have obtained on this subject; but it is impossible to regulate sleep by the hour: to rest a whole day in bed under great fatigue of body or mind, may occasionally be extremely beneficial. When the body and mind have received all the refreshment which sleep can give, people cannot lie in bed, and till then, they should not rise. Healthy children, when they wake in a morning, cannot be kept in bed. In high health, seven or eight hours will complete this refreshment, and hence arises the false inference which has been drawn from an observation, probably just, that long lived persons are always early risers: not that early rising makes them long lived, but that people, in the highest vigour of health, are naturally early risers; when, therefore, there is a disposition to lie in bed beyond the healthy hour, the cause of that disposition should be sought and remedied. It generally originates in some indisposition of the stomach."

QUERIES ON TEA.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—The motives for the queries on Tea, clearly arises from your querist's belief, that some of our teadealers, in the legal inquiries taking place, may become the innocent victims of Chinese fraud; but of this there is little probability; if the Chinese cheat, the spurious teas must be mixed with good, and so exported. I believe, that in all the legal convictions, parcels of the spurious articles have been found *ready for mixing*, and they have been fined on the quantity so found only. To the two first queries I answer yes.

3. Certainly, upon the same principle that every commercial commodity increases with the demand.

4. Not impossible, but very improbable, since the tea-plant can be cultivated, and the article prepared, *genuine*, as cheap as spurious; while in England, the duty is so enormous, as to induce the dishonest dealer to employ a substitute which costs much more than the real article without the duty, but considerably

less with it; and his profits upon the risk arises from the latter difference.

5. He might have added, "do the Prince Regent and Aldgate Pump connive at it?"

6. He can be informed at the India House.

7. Answered by another, "take two from eight, do ten remain?"

8. A very difficult query; I'll try with another to answer it: "if a man escape drowning, will he be burnt?"

9. He should have stated what he meant by poor; if pennyless, certainly not.

10. Consult "Cocker."

11. No.

12. No.

13 & 14. See answer the 6th.

I shall be happy to notice and answer, if possible, some more such submitted inquiries.

R. C.

CURE OF CORNS.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Every one knows that the surface of the body is covered—above the *true skin*—by the *cuticle* or *scarf skin*. This is a thin membrane, save when it is exposed to pressure and rubbing (friction). In this case, it becomes much thickened and hardened, as on the soles of the feet, and on the palms of the hands. And it is not unworthy of remark, that the induration is in direct proportion to these agents, i. e. to the exigency. But there is a *morbid induration* when the pressure exceeds, or is applied where it is not ever necessary. In this case, the distinguishing name of corns has been applied to the diseased parts.

Every one who has seen a poultice applied, may remark, that it had the effect of softening—generally, of detaching, the cuticle. Now, let a poultice of such size and consistence as will preserve its moisture around the part, be applied to the offending corn at bed-time: on the following morning the greater part of the indurated cuticle (the corn) may be removed by the fingers. A little spermaceti ointment may be used during the following day, or the part may be entirely neglected. It may, in some cases, be necessary to repeat this process once or twice, and the cure is safe, easy, and certain.

OAK BARK.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—By means of the Literary Journal, I take the liberty of putting the following query to your numerous correspondents. "If oak trees are stript of their bark in the spring, so as to preserve all its good qualities, do they think the timber will be as sound the next winter as before, and the sap be out?" A gentleman at Box, in Wiltshire, has actually made the experiment; last spring, he stript three trees of their lop, top, and back, leaving only the trunk and spire standing, intending to cut them this winter. Whether the dry rot can be prevented by that means, and

* See Literary Journal, No. 43.

the tree not injured by being stript, is to be determined. It is well known the dry rot never affects winter-cut timber, but then the bark is lost. The question now is, whether the sap which ascended in the spring will evaporate and perspire without the help of the bark, and the timber keep sound? A circumstance which so intimately concerns the nation at large, should be attended to. At Milford-Haven Dock-Yard, they drive stakes into the sand and fasten the timber between them, in vast piles, so that, at high water, it is entirely covered, and this they call pickling it. It has been asserted by some that this will prevent the dry rot.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
R. S. L.

ACTORS AND ACTRESSES.

To the Editor of the Literary Journal.

SIR,—Having been very highly entertained with "Amateurs and Actors," I have endeavoured to complete a similar production, which, if you think worthy, shall feel obliged by your inserting it in the columns of the Literary Journal.

I remain, your's, &c.
SANGRAZO.

ACTORS AND ACTRESSES.

"—Nothing extenuate,
Nor set down aught in malice."

MISS CAREW.

"That strain again;—it had a dying fall:
O! it came o'er my ear like the sweet south,
That breathes upon a bank of violets,
Stealing and giving odour."—*Twelfth Night*.

MR. EGERTON.

"Rude am I in speech."—*Othello*.

MISS KELLY.

"I'll hold thee any wager,
When we are both apparelld like young
men,
I'll prove the prettier fellow of the two,
And wear my dagger with a braver grace."—
The Merchant of Venice.

MRS. LISTON.

"That man i' th' world who shall report he
has
A better wife, let him in nought be trusted,
For speaking false in that."—*Henry 8*.

MR. JONES.

"Tis he, I ken the manner of his gait:
He rises on his toe."—*Troilus and Cressida*.

MR. YOUNG.

"Such a man
Might be a copy to these younger times."—
All's Well that Ends Well.

MISS FOOTE.

"Ah! that deceit should steal such gentle
shape,
And with a virtuous visor hide deep vice!"—
Richard 3.

* See No. 42, of the Literary Journal.

MRS. DICKENS.

—“ Nay, then, farewell!
I've touched the highest point of all my greatness!
And from that full meridian of my glory,
I haste now to my setting.”—*Henry 8*.

MR. H. KEMBLE.

“A fellow of no mark nor likelihood.”—
Henry 4. part 1.

RED SNOW ON THE ALPS,
AND THOUGHTS ON ITS ORIGIN.

We have all along cautioned our readers against a too ready belief in novelties, as connected with the attempts to explore the Polar Regions, and to find a North-West Passage; and, with respect to the Red Snow, we expressed, from the first, our surprize, that any phenomenon of that kind should have escaped previous observation, or that it could be in any manner peculiar to Baffin's Bay. Our contemporaries, in the mean time, after having begun the romance with a history of "Lost Greenland," a change in the Polar Climate, and a prospect of a new atmosphere for England*, have been, next, disposed, upon the return of Captain Ross, to infer, from the Red Snow, and from the Native Iron, a new set of marvels, as belonging to the Arctic World. "That," said they, "which loads the atmosphere with the fluid which composes this meteoric iron, serves to colour the snow;" and, from the new data, we were to find, "how to explain the phenomena of the Northern Lights, from which," it was argued, "it is possible, meteoric iron may be produced to an extent hitherto unknown; and also to account for the remarkable variations of the compass in these latitudes, if not to unravel the entire mystery of Magnetism and the Needle†."

Alas! alas! for the eager credulity of mankind. Pliny and his precursors are laughed at for their marvels, but does not the same disposition which actuated them, still actuate us all; and is not criticism for ever in demand, to correct the hasty judgments that are incessantly formed? As to native iron, masses of that substance have been found in Siberia, Peru, and Brazil†; in the temperate and tropical, as well as in the arctic circles; and, besides, we deny that it is yet clearly ascertained, that native iron is meteoric iron*.

The colouring of the Red Snow by means of iron being given up, it was next referred to uric acid, as contained, and perhaps modified, in the dung of birds

* See Literary Journal, vol. i, pp. 40, 432, n.

† Literary Journal, vol. i, p. 597.

‡ One or more masses, of seven feet in length, have been found in Brazil.

* See the sole ground on which an identity is asserted, Literary Journal, vol. i, p. 619.

which feed on fish*, and again to vegetable substances, &c.†.

As to the places in which Red Snow has been observed, we have already mentioned Spitzbergen and the Scilly Islands, in addition to Baffin's Bay; and we have now to add—THE ALPS, a situation which at once overturns all the foregoing theories.

Two or three of our friends have recently had the Red Snow of the Alps under their eyes. They have seen it on the highest summits of Mont Blanc. They do not recollect to have observed it in larger patches than about thirty or forty feet square. With respect to its colour, they agree in stating, that it may be said to look as if carrots had just been scraped upon it. One of them, however, informs us, that his guide said, it looked as if wine had been spilt upon the spot. Our informants stirred the Red Snow with their hands, and found the colour continue for some depth below the surface; but they did not ascertain whether the whole mass of the snow, down to the soil or rock, was discoloured or not.

The patches of Red Snow are familiar to the guides, who, however, have no explanation to offer. They say, in the mean time, that the Red Snow is old snow; that not only it does not fall of a red colour, but is never red when newly fallen. This seems a valuable fact, in the attempt at forming a theory.

M. Desaussure observed this Red Snow, and, in his Voyage dans les Alpes, has entered upon a discussion of its origin; but without coming to any satisfactory conclusion.

Considering that the Red Snow is old snow, is it not probable that its colour is to be ascribed to the effect of some chemical alteration of the component parts, produced by long exposure to the atmosphere, and with or without repeated partial thawings; and is not the continuance of this snow in a state of congelation, from year to year, in elevated regions, like those of the Alps, and in particular situations under the polar skies, and in other places, the cause why Red Snow is peculiar to some spots, and not more generally found?

Shipwreck.

OBSERVATIONS,
WITH DIRECTIONS,

On the Method brought into Use by G. W. Manby, Esq., Captain in the Royal Navy, for saving Persons from Vessels stranded on a Lee-Shore.

(Continued from No. 43, p. 43.)

ANOTHER method of producing ignition by percussion has recently been invented; it is effectual in the most tempestuous weather. At present, however, any description is withheld, as it has been offered to the Honourable Board of Ordnance.

* Idem, p. 608.

† See Literary Journal, No. 42.

under the idea that it is of high importance to services immediately connected with that department.

As it is impossible to prime with loose powder in a storm, a tube (in the form of the annexed figure) may be made of common writing-paper, the outer edge of which should be cemented with a little gum; this is to be filled with a paste made of finely-powdered gunpowder and spirits of wine; when this is half dry, a needle is to be run through the centre of it, and the hole left open; the effect will be, that when the tube is enflamed, a stream of fire will rush with great force down the aperture and perforate the cartridge.

The following proportions of gunpowder of the best kind will give to the 24lb. shot fired from the mortar, the range placed opposite in the subjoined table.

Ounces of Powder.	Yards of Deep-Sea Line.	Yards of 13-inch Rope.
8	220	180
10	270	220
12	320	250

As the mortars are made as light as pos-

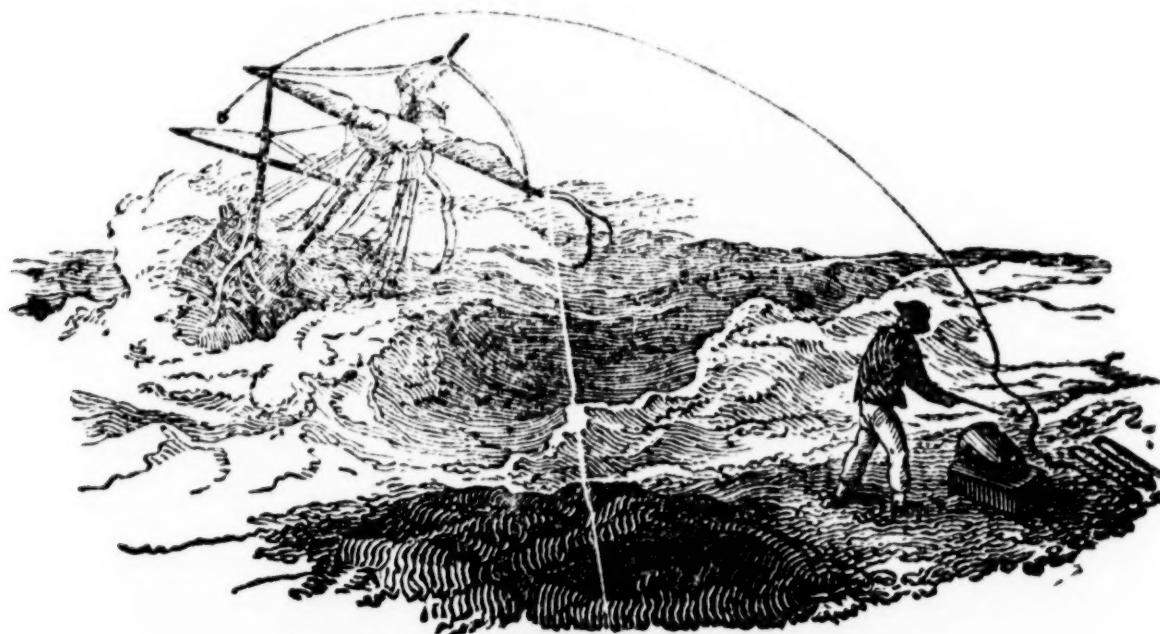
sible, for the sake of portability, it is not recommended that the last charge with gunpowder of the strongest quality should ever be exceeded.

Having furnished instructions for preparing the apparatus, it is next necessary to direct the mode of applying it to its purpose of gaining communication with a distressed vessel driven on a lee-shore. When the wind blows directly on the shore, the mortar is to be pointed directly at the vessel; any direct opposition from the strength of the wind is to be met and overcome by a proportionate increase in the charge of powder, up to the highest quantity given in the scale. But it may happen that vessels take the ground when the wind blows sideways along the shore, or the wind may have changed after they have taken the ground, supposing them to have driven with the wind right on the shore. When this is the case, if the mortar should be fired pointed directly at the object, the rope carried out by the shot would be swept far to the leeward of the vessel by the force of the wind, and communication be missed. It is, therefore, in a side-wind, necessary, in proportion to the strength and obliquity

of the wind, to point the mortar to windward of the object; the slack of the rope carried out by the shot will then be borne by the wind so much to leeward as to fall on one part or other of the distressed vessel. In the case of a strong side-wind, the lower the elevation (about the angle of fifteen degrees) at which the mortar is fired, the less power the wind will have over the rope, and the more certain it will be to fall on the weathermost part of the rigging of the wreck, with which communication is attempted.

When the rope is thrown on board, the crew, if not extremely exhausted, will, at once, secure it to some firm part of the wreck, and then a boat * (if a boat be at hand) may be hauled off by it; the boat is kept, by the power given over it by the rope, with its head to the waves and wind; and consequently rises over the surges, free from the danger of being upset.

* When circumstances will permit, a boat hauled off by the rope thrown from the mortar, is the method most to be relied on as the most prompt and certain mode of relief from a beach.



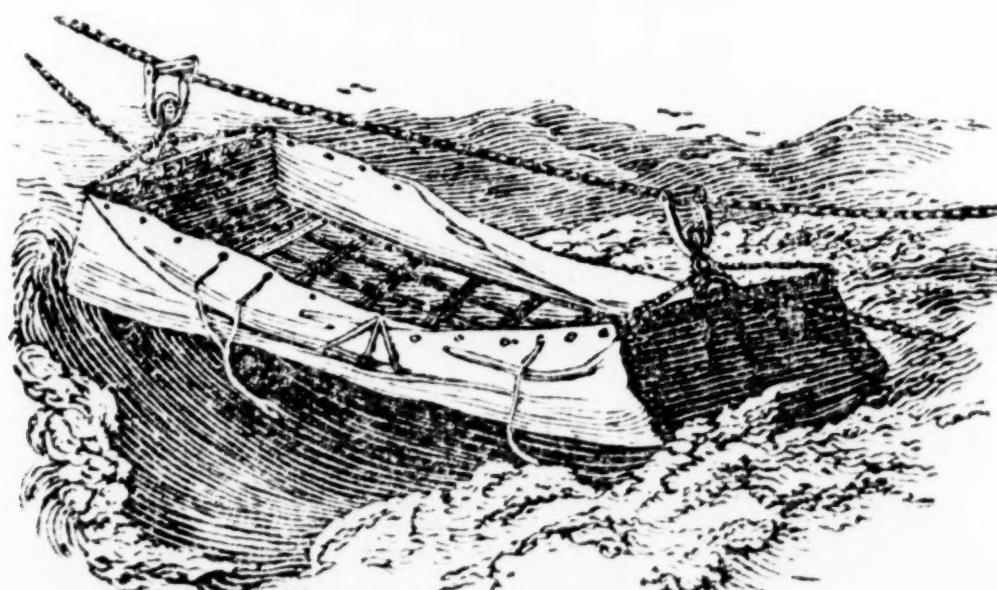
If the crew, as is sometimes the case, are so benumbed or fatigued as to be unable to secure the rope themselves, the barbed shot, when the rope with which it has been projected over the vessel is drawn in from the shore, will of itself take hold and fix on some part of the rigging or hull of the wreck, and a boat may be hauled off by it, though the crew are so

exhausted as not to be able to move a hand towards saving their own lives.

Another mode of bringing the crew on shore, after communication is once gained, is, by a basket or cot, as in the subjoined figure†.

† The basket or cot should be made buoyant by cork, or kegs of air. But where the

coast is extremely rocky, or the beach very rugged, it will be necessary, to protect the person coming to the shore from injury, when dashed by the violence of the sea against the side of a cliff or beach; this will effectually be prevented, as well as the danger of drowning, by a hammock stuffed with cork shavings: buoyant jackets may be made upon this principle at the expense of a very few shillings.



It is furnished with lashings, to prevent the person within it from being washed out. The want of a bottom of canvas is supplied by a strong netting, by which the water is let through, that otherwise collecting in it in its passage and re-passage between the ship and the shore, would retard or stop it by greatly increasing its weight, and possibly drown the person conveyed by it. This mode is particularly adapted for bringing on shore helpless women and children, or the sick and wounded.

In employing this cot, the following directions are to be minutely observed and practised: First, drive three strong stakes deep into the ground, in such a position with regard to one another, that they form a triangle, and from a wide base meet close at their heads, which are to be lashed firmly together, and have a gun-tackle-purchase made fast to them. As soon as communication has been effected with the distressed vessel, by the rope carried out by the shot from the mortar, the crew will haul on board by it, from the shore, a large rope, and also a tailed block, rove with a smaller rope, both ends of which are to be kept on shore. When these are made fast on board, the large rope, after it has passed through the roller at each end of the cot, is to have the gun-tackle-purchase fast to the stakes lashed to it. The ends of the small rope are then to be made fast, one to each end of the cot, and the cot travelling by the rollers, on the large rope, is to

be worked by the bight of it to the ship, and back, by the people on shore *.

The gun-tackle-purchase is for the purpose of keeping the rope, on which the cot runs, at a proper degree of tension. It is to be most carefully attended to; for, if it be slackened, as the vessel rolls out towards the sea, the liability of the rope to be broken will be prevented; and if gathered in, on the other hand, as the ship rolls in again towards the shore, the too great slackness of the rope, which would hinder the free passage of the cot, and plunge it more than is necessary in the water, will be avoided.

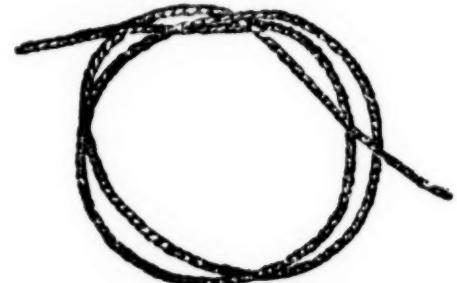
Another method of passing the crew to the shore, in the absence both of a boat and the cot, is by a grummet of rope, in the manner described in an extract from the narrative of Lieutenant Woodger, of the Royal Navy, on the 20th of January, 1814.

"In firing the second shot from the top of the cliff, I had the satisfaction of throwing the line over the vessel, which was full two hundred and thirty yards from the cliff. On signs being made to the people on board, they hauled a sufficient quantity of the line on board for the bite to return to the shore, they then made a hawser fast to it, that was fortunately lying abaft. As soon as the people on the cliff had hauled the said hawser on shore,

* If there are several persons at hand, the large rope may be hauled taut by them without using the purchase-tackle.

and taught from the vessel, I cut a piece of the hawser off, and made a grummet on the hawser with it, sufficiently large for a man to sit in, to which I made the bite of the line fast. On waving to the people on board, they hauled the grummet along the hawser to the vessel, and one man got into it at a time, and was hauled on shore hanging on the hawser, and the grummet was hauled to the vessel again, by which method the whole of the crew, consisting of five men and two boys, were saved. The vessel immediately afterwards broke up."

In case of shipwreck, under circumstances of great destitution, in which none of the modes above described can be put in practice, the crew, on receiving the rope, thrown on board by the shot from the mortar, will secure it, and then, drawing on board as much as will fully reach from the vessel to the shore, make a clove-hitch in it, like the figure ; which



is put over the shoulders and arms of the person to be brought on shore, and drawn tight, close under the arm-pits; care being taken to fix the knot on the breast bone, as described in the subjoined plate.



Terrible as this alternative may appear, its success may be relied on. Nine foreigners have been saved by it in cases of extraordinary peril on the coast of Norfolk; and recently, the master, four seamen, a boy, and the master's daughter, were brought in safety to the shore by it

at Winterton, in the same county, just before the vessel went to pieces.

The attempt to swim on shore, without some such aid, is almost certain destruction to the strongest and most skilful swimmer, although he be furnished with corks, or other buoyant substances; for

if he venture, he will, most probably, either be killed by the violence with which he is dashed by the waves against the beach, or drowned in struggling against the regurgitation of the surge.

(To be continued.)

AN ACCOUNT OF THE ESQUIMAUX.

[SEVERAL correspondents are desirous that we should insert in our pages some account of the Esquimaux, (sometimes called Greenlanders,) concerning which people so much is said at present. The following is extracted from a recent and very interesting volume, entitled "Greenland, &c." by Bernard O'Reilly, Esq.]

THE early discoverers of Greenland were surprised to meet with a people already in possession of those countries. They described them as diminutive in person, dressed in skins, and moving about in little boats covered also with skins. They are represented as not having ships; and yet subsequent adventurers from Europe met tribes of this same people both in Newfoundland and the waters north of that place, as also in Greenland.

That this description exactly suits the natives of Greenland at the present day will not be disputed; but it must appear singular, that a people confessedly aboriginal in those inhospitable regions, should, after a lapse of nearly two thousand years, be found the same in every respect at the present day, as they appeared to the first European voyagers.

Charlevoix, a French historian of much accuracy, states their national appellation to be Esquimeaux, which is a word of their own language having a French termination. This writer explains the term as meaning "eaters of raw flesh;" but to this interpretation some objections may be reasonably made. For instance, would any people be found desirous to stigmatize themselves with a nick-name? One only reply to this can appear satisfactory, which is, that they might give themselves such a name to mark the superiority, as they may conceive, of their own nation above every other, in their being able to partake of the fruits of their hunting on the spot, whilst the other must perish unless he have the unnecessary luxury of cooking. The value of this observation, however, is much diminished, when it is known that the Greenlander, though he can eat his food undressed, and generally does so, by no means would prefer that mode to the greater comfort of having his dinner in the European manner; but he is, in a great degree, compelled to adopt the former custom of necessity; and the effects arising from custom are well known to infuse themselves into the constitution, and produce what is generally denominated habit. Ellis relates a story of a youth who had been carried away from his native country, and, on his return, the sailors having killed a seal, he eagerly seized a portion of the raw flesh and ate it, expressing his delight at finding a circumstance which so strongly brought to mind his dear native country.

The fact, however, is, that the national appellation by which these people distin-

guish themselves from others is not Esquimeaux, as has been so long received, but is, by themselves, pronounced in quite a different manner. Were I to write it, as I observed it spoken by them, it should be Uskeemè (pronounced according to our sounds oos-kè-mà); and of this appellation they are as proud as a native of this country is of the name of Briton. Any person desirous of obtaining their immediate attention and civility, should address them with the term Uskee, which never fails to ensure that respectful regard which is shown by conciliated minds. The English sailors indulge in their usual humour of abbreviating names, and have not refrained from exercising their ingenuity in reducing Uskee into Yak, which ingenuity, however, has not afforded much satisfaction to the natives. Probably, by similar means, the North American "Yankee" has been invented.

From these remarks it must be apparent that there is not much dependence to be put on the explanation given by Charlevoix as to their national name. He says, that Abenaqui Esquimantsic signifies "eater of raw flesh," and that they are the only nation in the world that eats raw flesh; but the accounts of many Tartar tribes are positive in asserting, that the eating of raw flesh is known and practised in many parts of northern Tartary, and that the Tartar horseman usually has no other mode of preparing his repast than by placing it on his horse's back beneath the saddle, which practice cannot be looked upon as a refinement in cookery. Hence it is evident that the Greenlanders, or Uskee-mè tribes, must have received their national name from some other cause.

In all the revolutions that language has undergone, the pronoun seems to have maintained a sort of inviolability throughout all nations. This is very remarkable in the present case, in which the personal pronoun, belonging to the speaker, is obviously the same as in other languages. Thus, when an Uskee wishes to express absolute refusal, he says, Na-me, i. e. Not for me. Requesting the reader to bear this in mind, I shall next mention that the old Roman term for water is written aqua: and, as it is evidently a remnant of an original language carried from the east in the course of colonization, it will not be overstrained to find its use adopted by other people very far remote from the theatre of the Latin tongue. Another term, in the language just mentioned, is the word cunnus, signifying woman, the "belli tetterima causa" of the satirist. The reader will probably be somewhat surprised to find a similar term in use among the Greenlanders. The Uskee tells you that the name of his wife is cunà. Besides, the old Latin word cunabula, cradle, has a relative term in the language of the Uskee mè, cuna-blubush, coitus *.

* Mr. O'Reilly is, in all parts of his work an adventurous etymologist.—ED.

Taking notice, therefore, of the word aqua, water, and applying it to the term Uskee, it requires very little aid of the imagination to find a close analogy. This analogy is supported by the fact, that these people are nowhere found but in the vicinity of water. From it they draw subsistence; and its presence must be ever foremost in their thoughts, and naturally lead them to designate their nation, peculiarly, by some term, in which water must bear a prominent share. The adjunct of mè gives additional force to this observation, as the moment an Uskee-mè makes his appearance amongst them, though previously an entire stranger, he is hailed with joy by this name, and is, therefore, entitled to all the rights of hospitality.

Before we come to speak of their manners and customs, it may not be amiss to attempt an inquiry as to their original residence. In this respect, it is best to consider them exclusively as fishermen, as they are seldom known to stray a day's journey from the shore inland. It is true, indeed, they sometimes go in pursuit of deer; but as, on the American side, such pursuit would lead them into the neighbourhood of nations hostile to them, and, consequently, produce less or more the reduction of their numbers, which they are most careful to avoid, they are very unwilling to expose themselves to such hazard, and content themselves with what they can procure from the sea. In Greenland, however, there must be deer, more particularly towards the south. It is rare, in those islands, to see any animal of that description, and deer-skin is seldom seen to form a part of their dress. The Danes, indeed, may deprive them of such skins, by inducing the poor creatures to barter with their masters; and hence the rare occurrence of seeing an Uskee furnished with any portion of deer-skin. In Hudson's Bay, the name for a deer is, according to writers who have given accounts of that country, tuk-toa; and, in Greenland, the same is pronounced more softly, and may be written tu-tu (too too.) The trifling difference of sound, in this instance, is nothing; and it is mentioned as tending to identify the people who inhabit Greenland and Hudson's Bay. There can be no doubt of their having a common origin, being in size, customs, and pursuits, precisely on the same scale.

In person they are diminutive, but stoutly made. They seldom stand above four feet four inches, except in Greenland, where the national figure is changed by intermarriage with the Danes. The native Uskees do not cordially associate with this mixed race, which they consider as degenerate. In complexion, they are generally of an olive-brown. Their forehead and the sides of the head, above the temples, are greatly depressed; the crown is elevated considerably; and the back of the head is depressed, as the forehead. The smaller end of a hen's egg presents a familiar resemblance to their cranium. Their eyes are usually small, but pierc-

ing, not brilliant; and the calm mild manner with which they contemplate a stranger, gives a good idea of the power of their eye. Their vision is astonishingly strong, by means of which they can distinguish objects at an incredible distance. The snow glare affects their eyes very much, which are often observed to be inflamed. Against this inconvenience, they have many ingenious contrivances, in the manner of eye-shades, which are usually a piece of wood made to fit across the eyes, having two fine slits, and a pinhole in the centre of each to correspond to the centre of vision. Their cheek bones are high, which, with their rounded flabby cheeks, renders the nose by no means a prominent feature. Their lips and mouth are generally large; the former very much protruded. The lower part of their face altogether forms a striking contrast to their narrow forehead, and is a chief distinguishing feature of this people. The women differ little from the men, except that they are not so tall. Their hands are remarkably fine, small, and neat. The same remark applies with regard to their feet.

The dress of both sexes is nearly alike, the women being distinguished only by their jacket terminating in a triangular piece, before and behind, reaching nearly to the knees. Nothing about the persons of the Uskee-mès is more remarkable than their hair. It hangs from their poll, long, black, coarse, and lank, exactly like the hairy parts of the whalebone. The women tie it in a bunch upon the top of the head, which takes away much of the unsightliness of such an object. In plate V, Fig. 1, which is a good likeness of an Uskee woman, this custom is exhibited*.

Having stated so much regarding the person of the Greenlander, we shall proceed to trace him in his emigration.

That they are of Tartar origin, may be very fairly assumed. Their general cast of feature, their retired and cautious habits, and, above all, their unconquerable disposition to change their place of abode, are evident proofs of this assumption being correct. In this view, then, some of them may be considered as having moved westward, and colonized Lapland, where they are found in boats of the same construction as those of the Greenlander and Hudson's Bay Esquimaux, and devoted to the very same pursuits. Others, proceeding northward and eastward, peopled the Samoëid country; and, whether by accident or design, ventured across Behring's Straits †, which, considering

* For the plates, and other subjects of reference in this extract, we may refer the reader to Mr. O'Reilly's work itself; but it is also our own intention to present to our readers portraits of an Esquimaux man and woman.—ED.

† Bebring, in his voyage, found the small islands, lying across the Straits, peopled by Esquimaux; for such they appeared by their dress and manners.

their surprising dexterity in the management of their little boats, was not at all difficult to effect. Besides, on an expedition of this nature, they are never unemployed. The ice, which covers that Strait at certain times, serves as a place of repose to the seals, which may be truly termed the live stock of the Greenlander. These animals, therefore, in the course of the expedition, become a certain resource against famine; as every part of the seal is turned to account—the very intestines being usefully employed by way of floats attached to the darts. The women, too, who are never left behind when a removal is carried on, will, during such a voyage, convert the seal or bird skins into convenient dresses, so that this little roving tribe are seldom at a loss, the sea supplying all their wants. Should an extensive field of ice present itself, they at once get out of their boats, each man takes his kaiak on his head; the women must look after their umiak, (the names of their fishing and family boats;) and, in this manner, they traverse immense fields of ice, which saves the labour of paddling round them, and, of course, shortens their journey very considerably. Such is their patience under toil, when seated in their boats upon their favourite element, that they usually perform the distance of twenty leagues a day. That is the way in which they describe a day's rowing in a kaiak. In this manner, it is very plain that they might have passed along the arctic shores of North America; and, if the conjecture be plausible, they might, year after year, have extended themselves through the numerous waters that are sprinkled over that unexplored region, exulting in the solitudes they met with, and which to them were secure blessings.

Thus have they, in the course of their emigration, passed from Siberia into America, and spread themselves over all the shores of North America to the eastward, always settling upon low islands, contiguous to the best waters for killing seals and wild fowl, &c.: a people so accustomed to hardy fare could not be much at a loss to find a residence on such a coast, whence the passage to Greenland was not difficult. The latter, however, must have been attended with much difficulty and danger. But that it has been effected is undoubtedly true, as the first European adventurers found them in possession of that country in the tenth century. So also, about that period, they were found as far south as Newfoundland. There must, consequently, have elapsed a great number of years before they could have advanced so far southward; and, of course, their emigration must have commenced at a period previous to the Christian era.

(To be continued.)

Early English Poetry.

SIR CLEGES.

AN ENGLISH FABLIAU.

[Concluded from our last.]

The vescher seyd, "Be Mari swet,
" Chorle thou comste not yu yett,
" J tell the sekyrly,
" But thou me graunte, without lesyng,
" The thyrd part of the wynnnyng,
" Wan thou comste ayen to me."
Sir Cleges sey non other von*;
There to he grauntyd sone anon;
It woll non othyr be.
Than Sir Cleges with hevi chere,
Toke hys son and hys panere;
Into the hall went he.

The styward walkyd there withall,
Among the lordes in the hall,
That were rech in wede.

To Sir Cleges he went boldlly,
And seyd, " Ho made the soo hardi
" To com into thys stede?

" Chorley," he seyd, " thou art to bold !
" Wythdrawe the with thy clothys olde,
" Smartly, J the rede!"
" J have," he seyd, " a present browght,
" From our lord that vs dere bowght,
" And on the rode gan blede."

The panyer he toke the styward sone,
And he pullyd out the pyne
As smartly as he myght.

The styward seyd, " be Mari dere,
" Thys saue I never thys tyme of yere,
" Syn I was man wroght !
" Thou schalt com no nere the kyng,
" But yf thowe graunt me myne askyng,
" Be hym that me bewght ;
" The thyrd part of the kynges yefte,
" That will I haue be my threfte,
" Ar for there gost thou nott!"

Sir Cleges bethowght hym than,
" My part is lest betwyxt thes men,
" And J schall haue nothyng ;
" For my labor schall J nott get
" But yt be a melys mete."
Thus he thought synghe.

He seyd, " Harlot, hast noo tonge ?
" Speke to me, and terye not louge,
" And graunte me myn askyng ;
" Ar wyth a staffe J shall the wake,
" That thy rebys schall all to quake,
" And put the out hedlynge."

Sir Cleges sey non othyr bote †,
But his askyng graunte he most,
And seyd with synghe sore:
" Whatsoeuer the kyng reward,
" Ye schall haue the thyrd part,
" Be yt lesse or more."

Upo to the desse Sir Cleges went,
Full soberly and with good entent,
Knelynge the kyng before.

Sir Cleges oncowyrd the panyere,
And schewed the kyng the cheryse clere,
On the grovnd knelynge.

He seyd, " Jesu our Savyor
" Sent the thys frewght with honor,
" On thys erth growyng."
The kyng sye thes cheryse newe :
He seyd, " J thanke Cryst Jesu :
" Thys is a fayre neweyng."

He commaundyd Sir Cleges to mete,
And aftyrward he thought with him to speke,
Wythout any faylyng.

* Von, usage.

† Bote, remedy.

The kyng therof made a present,
And sent it to a lady gent
Was born in Cornewayle† :
She was a lady bryght and schene,
And also ryght will besene,
Wythout any fayle.
The cheryse were servd thorowe the hall ;
Than seyd the kyng, that lord ryall,
" Be mery, be my cunell :
" And he that brought me this present
" Full will J schall hym content ;
" Yt schall hym wylly avayle."
Whan all men were mery and glade,
Auon the kyng a squire bade,
" Brynge nowe me beforne.
" The pore man that the cheryse browght.
He cam auon, and teryde not,
Wythout any skorn,
Whan he cam before the kyng,
On knese he fell kuelyng,
The lords all beforne.
To the kyng he spoke full stylle :
" Lord," he seyd, " watte ys your will ?
" I am your man fre born."
" I thanke the hartyly," seyd the kyng,
" Of thy yest and presentyng,
" That thou hast nowe i-doo.
" Thowe haste onowryd all my fest,
" Old and Yonge, most and leste,
" And worschedeyd me also :
" Wattsooever thou wolt haue,
" I will the graunte, so God me save,
" That thyne hart standyth to."
He seyd, " Gramarcy, lech kyng,
" Thys ys to me a comfortynge :
" J tell you sekyrly,
" For to haue lond or lede,
" Or other reches, so God me spede !
" Yt ys to meche for me ;
" But seth J schall chese my selfe.
" J pray you graunt me strokys twelve,
" To dele were lykyth me :
" Wyth my staffe to pay hem all
" To myn adverserye in the hall,
" For send Charyte!"
Than außswerd Hewtar the kyng :
" J repeut my grauntetyng
" That J to the made.
" Good," he seyd, " so mott J thee,
" Thowe haddyst be better haue gold or fee ;
" More nede thereto thou hade."
Sir Cleges seyd, with a wannt,
" Lord yt ys your ouwyn graunte,
" Therfore I am full glade."
The kyng was sory therfore,
But neuerthelesse he grauntyd him there;
Therefore he was full sade.
Sir Cleges went into the hall,
Among the gret lordes all,
Without any more.
He sought after the proughd styward,
For to yeve hym hys reward,
Because he grevyd hym sore.
He yaffe the styward such a stroke,
That he fell down as a bloke,
Before all that therin were :
And after he yafe hym oþyr thre ;
He seyd, " Sore, for thy corteci,
" Smyghe me no more!"

* — a lady gent
Was born in Cornewayle,
This was Igema, first married to Gorlois, Duke of Cornwall. King Uther having been transformed by Merlin into the perfect semblance of the duke, (who in the mean time, was attacked, defeated, and slain, by the king's forces,) cohabited with her, and begot the renowned Arthur upon her. After the news of her husband's death, she was married to Uther, and crowned queen.

Out of the hall Sir Cleges went,
Moo to paye was hys entent,
Wythout any lett.
He went to the vscher in a breyde* ;
" Haue here sum strokys he seyde,"
Whan he wyth him mete ;
So that after and many a daye
He wold warn no man the waye,
So grymly he hym grett.
Sir Cleges seyd, " Be my threst,
" Thou hast the thyrd parte of my yeste,
" As J the behyght."

Than he went to the portere,
And four strokys he yaued hym there ;
His part hadde he there [too] :
So that after and many a daye,
He wold warn no man the waye,
Neythyr to ryde nether goo.
The fyrske stroke he leyde hym on
He brake hys schuldyrbone,
And his on arme thereto.
Sir Cleges seyd, " Be my threst,
" Thowe has the thyrd parte of my yeste;
" The couenaunte we made soo."

The kyng was sett in his parlor,
Wyth myrrh solas and onor ;
Sir Cleges thedyr went.
An harpor sange a gest be mowth,
Of a knyght there be-sowth ;
Hymselffe werament.
Than seyd the kyng to the harpor :
" Were ys knyght Cleges, tell me herr,
" For thou hast wyde i-went.
" Tell me trewth, yf thou can,
" Knowyste thou of that man?"
The harper seyd, " Yee, J wylle :
" Sum tyme forsoth J hym knewe ;
" He was a knyght of yours full trewe,
" And comly of gesture.
" We mynstrellys mysse hym sekyrly,
" Seth he went out of cuntrē :
" He was fayr of stature."
The kyng seyd, " Be myne hede !
" J trowe that Sir Cleges be dede,
" That J loyd peramore :
" Wold God he mere alyfe !
" J had hym lever than oþyr fyve,
" For he was stronge in stowre."

Sir Cleges knelyd before the kyng,
For he grauntyd hym hys askyng.
He thanked hym cortesly.
Specyally the kyng hym prayed,
To tell hym whye the strokes he payed
To hys men thre.
He seyd, " That he myght not com inward,
" Till euerych J grauntyd the thyrd partt
" Of that ye wold yeve me :
" With that J schuld have nowght myselfe,
" Wefore J yaued hem strokes twelve ;
" Methowt yt best trewly."

The lordes lowe both old a [nd] yenge,
And all that weren with the kyng,
They made solas inowe.
The kyng lowe so he nott myght :
He seyd, " This is a noble wyght,
" To God J make a wowe !"
He sent after his styward.
" Hast thou," he seyd, " thy reward ?
" Be Cryst, he ys to lowe !"
The styward seyd, with lok grym,
" — — — the dewle hym
" Born on a lowe !"
The kyng seyd to hym than,
" What is thy name tell me good man,
" Now a non rygh [t] † ?
" J hight Sir Cleges, soo haue I blyssle !

* In a breyde, in a hurry, rapidly.
† Lowe, flame. Saxon.
‡ Myght not. MS.

" My ryght name yt ys, i-wylle ;
" I was your ouyn knyght "
" Art thou Sir Cleges, that servyd me,
" That was soo jantyll and soo fire,
" And so stronge on fught ?"
" Ye sir, lord," he seyd, " so mott J thee *,
" Tyll God in hevyn had vesyte me :
" Thus pouerte haue me dyght."
The kyng yaued hym anon ryght
All that longed to a knyght,
To rech his body wyth.
The castell of Cardyff he yaued hym tho,
[With many other yeftes moō † ,
Miri to lyue and blyth.
The knyght rode to dame Clarys his wyne,
Fairer ladie was nou olyue ;
He schewyd his yeftes swyth :
Now to Mari that hende may,
For all your sowlys Y her pray
That to my talys lythe.]

ODE TO SCANDAL

AND

LORD BYRON'S ENIGMA.

THE editor of the Bath Herald, states, that the Enigma generally attributed to Lord Byron †, first made its appearance in that paper, Feb. 1, 1817, and that it was received in MS. from a friend, who assured it to be the unpublished production of the Hon. Robert Spencer, the author of *Beth-Gelert or the Grave of the Greyhound* and other poems. The same editor says, that the Ode to Scandal, just published as the production of the Right Hon. R. B. Sheridan, was printed in the Bath Herald, as far back as June 18, 1803, and there announced as an early poetic flight of the Right Hon. George Tierney. The editor concludes with declaring, that he has every reason to believe those gentlemen to have been the authors of the Poems in question §.

COUNSEL FOR PRISONERS.

THOUGH the state of our Criminal Law, as adverted to in the preceding number of the Literary Journal, in reference to Mr. Kendall's Letter to the Attorney-General, (No. 44, p. 59,) is matter open to common observation, few readers may have been led to consider the particular facts of the case. Blackstone thus describes this part of our system :—" When the jury is sworn, if it be a cause of any consequence, the indictment is usually opened, and the evidence marshalled, examined, and enforced, by the counsel for the crown or prosecution. But it is a settled rule at common law, that no counsel shall be allowed a prisoner upon his trial, upon the general issue,

* This and the following line both written in one line in the MS.

† This line, and to the conclusion, have been added by the editor, Mr. Weber.

‡ See Literary Journal Vol. I, p. iii.

§ We have heard the Enigma attributed to a Miss Fanshawe.—Ed.

in any capital crime, unless some point of law shall arise, proper to be debated. A rule which (however it may be palliated, under cover of that noble declaration of our law, when rightly understood, that the judge shall be counsel for the prisoner; that is, shall see that the proceedings against him are legal, and strictly regular) seems to be not at all of a-piece with the rest of the humane treatment of prisoners by the English law. For upon what face of reason can that assistance be denied to save the life of a man, which is yet allowed him in every petty trespass? Nor, indeed, is it, strictly speaking, a part of our ancient law; for the Mirroir, having observed the necessity of counsel in civil suits, ‘who know how to forward and defend the cause, by the rules of law and customs of the realm, immediately afterward subjoins, ‘and more necessary are they for defence upon indictments and appeals of *felony*, than upon other venial causes.’’

“The prisoner,” says Mr. Christian, (in his notes on the Commentaries of the preceding author,) “is not allowed counsel to plead his cause before the jury in any *felony*, whether it is capital, within the benefit of clergy, or a case of petty larceny. But in *misdemeanours*, the prisoner or defendant is allowed counsel, as in civil actions.”

“And the judges themselves, (to return to Blackstone,) are so sensible of this defect, that they never scruple to allow a prisoner counsel to instruct him what questions to ask, or even to ask questions for him, with respect to matters of fact; for, as to matters of law, arising on the trial, they are entitled to the assistance of counsel. But, lest this indulgence should be intercepted by superior influence, in the case of state-criminals, the legislature has directed, by statute 7 W. III, c. 3, that persons *indicted* for such high treason as works a corruption of blood, or misprision thereof, (except treason in counterfeiting the king’s coin or seals,) may make their full defence by counsel, not exceeding two, to be named by the prisoner, and assigned by the court or judge; and the same indulgence, by statute 20 Geo. 2. c. 30., is extended to parliamentary *impeachments* for high treason, which were excepted in the former act.”

“Upon the trial,” resumes Mr. Christian, “of issues which do not turn upon the question of guilty or not guilty, but upon collateral facts, prisoners under a capital charge, whether for treason or felony, always were entitled to the full assistance of counsel. Fost. 232, 42.—It is very extraordinary

that the law of England should have denied the assistance where it is wanted most; viz. to defend the life, the honour, and *all* the property of an individual!”

Fugitive Poetry.

SKETCH

From a Painting of a beautiful Child sorrowing over her dead Bird.

‘Tis her first grief,—the bird is dead!
How many a mournful word was said!
How many a tear was o'er it shed!
The anguish of the shock has past,
Yet Memory's thoughts those eyes o'ercast,
As, like the violet gemm'd with dew,
Glitters thro' tears their lovely blue.
‘Tis her first grief!—motionless there
Is stretch'd the fondling of her care.
No longer may she hear his voice,
No longer in his sports rejoice;
And scarcely dare she lift her eyes
To where the lifeless treasure lies.
But yesterday who could foresee
That such a change as this might be;
That she should call and he not hear;
That bird who knew and lov'd her dear;
Who, when her finger touched his cage,
Gainst it a mimic war would wage;
Who peck'd the sweetmeat from her hand,
And on her ringlets took his stand.
All as these recollections rise,
Again does sorrow drown the eyes,
The little bosom swell with sighs.
“Another bird!”—No never, never!
Empty shall lie that cage for ever!
‘Tis her first grief;—and it will fade
Or ere the next sun sinks in shade.
Ah! happy age, when smile and tear
Alternate in the eyes appear;
When sleep can every care remove,
And morn's light wake to hope and love,
But childhood flies like spring-time's hour,
And deep'ning shadows o'er youth low'r.
Even thou, fair girl, must one day know
Of life the painfulness and woe;
The sadness that sleep cannot cure,
Griefs that thro' nights and days endure;
Those natural pangs to mortals given,
To wean us from this earth, and lead our
thoughts to Heav'n.

CASH PAYMENTS AT THE BANK.

SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, a part of whose arguments against the resumption of Cash Payments at the Bank we inserted in a former Number (Vol. I, p. 488), urges also the following question:—

Whether such a resumption be consistent with the principles of justice?

The suspension of cash payments, at the Bank, took place on the 26th of February, 1797, and posterior to that suspension, above five hundred millions have been borrowed *in paper*. Until that sum shall be repaid, it would be the height of injustice and oppression, to compel the public, who received in pa-

per, to pay in coin. Surely those who shared in the loans contracted, made since the commencement of the suspension, have made advantage enough of the public necessities, without receiving any additional profit. Three per cent. stock was given to them, at an average price of sixty per cent., and the other stocks in proportion. The three per cents. have lately sold for above 82: consequently, every man wholent the public 1000*l.*, might have put 366*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* of clear profit into his pocket. In addition to that enormous advantage, is it possible to think of subjecting the public to all the horrors of diminished circulation, in order to pay those fortunate loanists in gold instead of paper? Is the commercial interest to be subjected to great distress, and the landed interest brought to ruin, in order that the funded interest may flourish? The question need only to be stated, to convince every disinterested mind, capable of reflection, that the idea is unjust and preposterous.

In order to explain more fully the injustice of re-establishing payments in cash, it may be proper to refer to a statement that has been drawn up of the price of corn, in paper, and in bullion, for six years, ending an. 1814; from which it appears, that above one-fifth of the price of that article, *which regulates the value of every other commodity*, is to be attributed to a circulation in paper. No public detriment arose from that circumstance: on the contrary, by promoting agricultural industry and improvement, it was the occasion of much good: but it would be a source of infinite mischief if, in addition to the other disadvantages arising from borrowing money, usual in time of war, we were likewise to be subjected to the burden of repaying those loans *in gold*, which we borrowed *in paper*. If that plan is to be adopted, it is evident, from the following statement, that one-fifth part of the national debt, and indeed the same proportion of all private debts, incurred during the suspension, ought, in justice, to be cancelled.

Statement of the Prices of Corn, in Paper and in Bullion, for six years, ending An. 1814.*

Year.	Price in Paper.	Year.	Price in Bullion.
1809.....	95 7	1809.....	81 0
1810.....	106 0	1810.....	88 6
1811.....	94 0	1811.....	74 5
1812.....	115 0	1812.....	90 0
1813.....	111 0	1813.....	74 0
1814.....	74 0	1814.....	56 6
	6)595 7		6)464 0
Average,	99 3		77 4
Difference,	21 11		

In regard to private debts, it is proper to state that, under the sanction of the

government, an immense circulation was established. Numbers were thence induced, from the facility of procuring money, to borrow large sums for the improvement of their estates, naturally thinking that they could not more effectually promote the interests and prosperity of their country; and if now payments in cash are resumed, these public benefactors will be compelled to pay above a fifth more than the sum they actually received*.

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The Drama.

COVENT GARDEN.—We have seldom or never witnessed the theatre with a greater degree of interest than we did on Wednesday last, for the purpose of witnessing the re-appearance of Miss Stephens at Covent Garden. This young lady is the greatest theatrical favourite we ever had. We have watched her progress from the night of her debut with feelings of the most anxious description, and have seen her attain the highest point of eminence with a sensation of pleasure which is more gratefully felt than it is easily described. Her absence from the metropolis has been protracted to an unusual length this season, and though no persons can rejoice more sincerely than ourselves, in the success she has every where enjoyed during her professional trip, and in the lucrative fruits of her exertions, still we cannot help wishing, (a selfish wish perhaps,) that she had returned to delight us at rather an earlier period. However, we have at length regained the assistance of her talents, and all chagrin vanishes. The eagerness with which we greet the return of a relation or of an old and valued friend, after a separation of any consequence, is a proof that we waited most impatiently for the scene in which our friend, (that is our professional friend,) Miss Stephens was to appear, and till she did appear we were teasing ourselves, without end, upon the questions, whether her person remained unaltered, her health unimpaired, her modest demeanour unsullied, and her vocal abilities uninjured and unobscured. To all these particulars we have the greatest pleasure in now answering in the affirmative, and of assuring our readers that she is still the same interesting creature and delightful warbler that she always was. Her Diana Vernon, in Rob Roy, though not one of her most distinguished efforts, is yet enriched with many striking beauties. Her song of "My Highland Lad," is a splendid display of taste, science, and expression; the alternate change of style from the impassioned to the tender and subdued, in this composition, a variation, the merit of which, we believe, is exclusively attributable to Miss Stephens, has an effect upon the audience which we shall not attempt to describe; and in the duet harmonized to "Roy's Wife," her notes are, if we may use the expression, absolutely crystallized.

We missed Sinclair very very much in Francis Osbaldestone,—it was without exception, his best character. "My Love is like the red red Rose," "Auld Long Syne," and other celebrated airs, were given by him with a force and feeling which we in vain looked for in the style

of Mr. Duruset, and though we admire this young man, on most occasions, we cannot say we liked him on the present. His duets with Miss Stephens were very badly executed, and quite spoiled the effect which they have hitherto produced. On the whole, Pyne would have done much more justice to the part. Poor little Tokely's Dougal used to be one of his most characteristic sketches. Emery, however, made a very good substitute. Macready's Rob Roy, and Liston's Baillie Jarvie, in their distinct lines, are both exquisite performances, but the public are so well acquainted with them, that they do not require any extended comment at this moment.

We have again to express our regrets at the dismissal of Mr. Ware from Covent Garden, and to declare our opinion that the present leader is not properly qualified for his situation. Both the measure and the tune were on some occasions murdered, and Miss Stephens herself, in one instance, was obliged to direct him in the time.

The eagerness of the public to see their young favourite was very great. The house was crowded to the ceiling before the commencement of the opera, and the reception of Miss Stephens was enthusiastic to a degree that completely overwhelmed her feelings.

W. B.

Original Poetry.

STANZAS.

THERE is a storm within my breast,
An Etna's boiling rage,
An inward grief of mind oppress'd,
That nought may well assuage.

There is a winter in my heart,
A winter bleak and fell;
And with it comes the cold depart
Of what I lov'd so well.

But I have made wherewith to fence
And cleave the tempest there;
And weapons of indifference—
May be—of wild despair.

And, as a birch, with boughs o'erbent,
Tho' tongueless—weeps in woe;
So, speechless I, my sorrow pent,
Mayhap, there are who know.

Still may its leaves in safety sigh,
And wave o'er murmuring stream;
While shines above the canopy
Of heav'n, with glitt'ring beam.

Not mine, howe'er, in writhing mood,
O'er gurgling rill to pour;
Mine is the ocean stern and rude,
Where storms successive low'r.

Hope, once, for me, had shed its ray
In beam of heavenly light;
But now, too true! it dies away.
I live in horrid night.

'Twas, once, my beacon, on a cliff,
In life's tumultuous main;
But ah! the blast hath swept my skiff
Where beacons all are vain.

Then let the tempest that's within,
Or that around me, low'r;
I cannot shrink at sense of sin,—
So, fearless, mock the pow'r.

Yes; let the blast sweep on the wing,
Or burst its rude control;
Or let it, in its ravings, bring
A chilness to my soul.

'Twill thrill me, as within 'twill writhe;
A cold—a dead'ning rest,
Prophetic of the hour when death,
Shall hush my throbbing breast.

22d Sept., 1818.

J. M. C.

MY EVENING FIRE.

Oh! when the labour of the day is done,
And sinks among his beams the brilliant sun;
When stars appear set in their skies of blue,
Clouds veil the moon, partaking of her hue;
What grateful feelings all my powers inspire,
To find me seated at my evening fire!

Here with a sympathetic heart, my wife
Gleans her best solaces to lighten life;
My children round me twine their lovely
limbs,
Repeating tasks, or lisping virtuous hymns;
And Content checks Ambition's vain desire
To bless the comforts of my evening fire.
Thou, who art grov'ling in the world for
gold;
Thou, who in sinful practices art old;
Thou who dost think there are not charms
at home;
And thou that wilt from wife and children
roam:
Pursue your favorite schemes!—but I'll re-
tire
With my dear Fam'ly at my evening fire!
Islington Green.

W. D. P.

ANSWER TO THE CHARADES, NO. 44, p. 63.

Pleasure has ruin'd thousands; yet pursued
With Moderate love, will make the spirit
light;
Assist her thro' this life's solicitude,
As a bright star relieves the gloom of
night:
How should we then regard Heaven's Man-
date given!
Still may our spirits Hemlock vice detest!
Lest we from endless pleasures should be
driven,
Nor dare approach the happy angels rest.
C. Close Acad. Jan. 24.

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We shall take the first opportunity that our
time and space affords, to comply with the
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